## **About the Presenters**

**Zelda Alpern** has been with CSAC since December 2013 when she joined the CRT and emergency Teams to play a lead role in organizing and leading dialogic sessions. After completing her MSW at Smith School for Social Work, Zelda participated in a year of intensive training through the Institute for Dialogic practices and has been part of dialogic work at CSAC with 45 networks. Zelda has also been influenced by the Hearing Voices Network and cofacilitates a hearing voices group at CSAC.

James Ashenfelter is currently working as the Community Supports Coordinator for the CRT program at the Counseling Service of Addison County. He began working for the Counseling service in 1993 as a community support worker. Over the years he has developed a broad range of clinical skills as a result of a combination of education and experience. He approaches his work with a strong emphasis on a person centered, relational basis as a foundation to trying to be supportive of others. Over the past twenty years he has facilitated DBT skills groups, cooccurring groups and was considered an agent of change with the state initiative to incorporate an integrated system of care within the designated mental health agencies in Vermont. For the past 2 ½ years he has been working with a cohort of colleagues at CSAC to study and develop an Open Dialogue approach to offer to families and individuals. He has worked with numerous families over the past two years and has a renewed sense of hope of the possibilities of helping individuals and their families to find meaningful ways of understanding and supporting each other in the midst of difficult challenges.

Jaskanwar Batra, MD, DMH Medical Director: is a board-certified psychiatrist practicing since 2003. Dr. Batra attended Medical School at Christian Medical College in Ludhiana, India. After completing medical school in 1997 and moved to the United States for further training. He volunteered at the University of Vermont's Department of Psychiatry and became involved in neuroscience research. This was instrumental in change in specialty to psychiatry instead of ER medicine. He completed his residency training at University of Vermont and Fletcher Allen Health Care. He currently serves as the Medical Director for the Vermont Department of Mental Health. Before this, he served as the Medical Director for a geriatric inpatient psychiatric unit in the Adirondacks and later as Chief Medical Officer of the Vermont Health Coop, focused on integrating mental health care from the payer side and prior to that he was the Medical Director for the Department of Mental Health and the Vermont State Hospital.

**Julie Brisson**: has been the Coordinator of the Wellness Workforce Coalition, an initiative of the Vermont Center of Independent Living, since it was formed in November, 2012. The Wellness Workforce Coalition is comprised of peer run organizations in Vermont which support training and advocacy for Vermont's peer workforce while preserving the autonomy, character, and contributions of each member organization. She has a Master's Degree in Human Services with a concentration in Community Counseling, Psychology, and Addictions from Springfield College School of Human Services.

**Steve Broer, Psy.D.:** Steve Broer is a Clinical Psychologist and Director of Behavioral Health Services at Northwestern Counseling & Support Services where he, along with his team, provides leadership of their Crisis, Outpatient, Integrated Health & Community Rehabilitation

and Treatment (CRT) programs. He is active on the Vermont Consortium for Suicide Prevention and provides leadership in implementing the Collaborative Assessment & Management of Suicide (CAMS) model in their crisis, outpatient & integrated health settings.

Scott Brumenshenkel came to nursing late in life having spent the majority of his adult life working as a carpenter and cabinetmaker. He chose nursing as a second career having been inspired by his wife's work as a nurse practitioner, and seeking the fulfillment that comes with helping others. He obtained an associates' degree in nursing in May of 2010 and as a new graduate he worked on a medical surgical unit before coming to work for Vermont State Hospital in July of 2010, and is presently a charge nurse at Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital. Scott chose psychiatric nursing because he has a long standing affinity for individuals who are often marginalized by our society, and because he recognized early in his nursing experience that unlike those individuals whose health is compromised because of poor personal choices, psychiatric illnesses are non-discriminatory.

Scott is thankful to be part of a facility that is actively working to improve the level of acute psychiatric care in Vermont through initiatives such as the *Six Core Strategies*, and as a charge nurse he works hard to provide a safe, progressive, and compassionate milieu for the patients, to promote recovery.

**Lesa Cathcart** a board certified psychiatric mental health nurse with over 32 years of experience. She has a Bachelor's of Science in Nursing and a Masters of Science in Administration. She is a certified facilitator in Appreciative Inquiry and has an instructor certification in Crisis Prevention and Intervention. She began her career as a staff member on the inpatient unit, and later moved into a clinical manager position. She was the program coordinator for the Adult Partial Hospitalization Program at Rutland Mental Health, and is currently the Nursing Director on the inpatient psychiatric unit at RRMC.

Kristin Chandler, Team Two Coordinator: is a graduate of Colgate University and Seattle University School of Law. Kristin teaches criminal law and criminal procedure as an adjunct professor at Norwich University and business law and ethics at Community College of Vermont. Kristin was a Vermont Assistant Attorney General for the Department of Mental Health for eight years where her area of practice focused on criminal cases as well as involuntary commitments and involuntary medication hearings in Family Court. Prior to her work as an AAG, Kristin served as the staff attorney for the Department of Public Safety. She started off her legal career as a deputy prosecuting attorney in Seattle, Washington with a focus on domestic violence. She has served on the faculty at the National Advocacy Center in Columbia, South Carolina and is certified by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center as a STAR (small town and rural jurisdiction) Domestic Violence trainer.

**Isabelle Desjardins, MD**, Associate Professor of Psychiatry, UVM College of Medicine; Executive Medical Director, Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital; Medical Director of Inpatient Psychiatry, UVM Medical Center: Board Certified Psychiatrist; expertise in: Institutional Leadership; Health Care System Redesign; Regulatory Readiness; Quality Improvement.

**Will Eberle:** is the Executive Director of Another Way, a non-profit community center in Montpelier, Vermont which provides advocacy, counseling, employment services, and recovery resources for folks with mental health, addictions, and trauma issues. Another Way, a demonstration site for the SAMHSA Mental Health Transformation Grant, is the oldest peer-run mental health organization in Vermont.

Will trained at-risk youth in residential carpentry, blacksmithing, and timber framing for the Vermont Department of Labor, the Washington County Youth Service Bureau, local high schools, and alternative graduation programs while running a design build Construction Company prior to entering the mental health field. The transformations he witnessed in the lives of the youth he was providing peer support and vocational training to, and his own lived experiences with trauma, homelessness, mental health challenges, chronic pain, and construction-related injuries inspired Will to earn a Psychology Degree as an adult student and enter the mental health field. Will is a trainer and consultant who serves on boards of directors, advisory boards, steering committees, and coalitions throughout Vermont. He participates in legislative advocacy, health care and legal reform, and efforts to provide Vermonters with a unified system of care for both mental health and addictions issues which is person-driven and informed by the principles of wellness and recovery. Will is an avid outdoorsman and musician who enjoys spending time with his wife and young son when he isn't working.

**Jeremy Evans:** Jeremy is currently a Patrol Lieutenant with the Brattleboro Police Department. He has been a police officer since 1996 and has a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.

Mourning Fox, LCMHC: Fox is currently the Interim Director of Mental Health Services and the Clinical Services and Operations Director for the Department of Mental Health. He was also the Director of the Care Management Team for DMH prior to his current role. As part of Fox's responsibilities, he has helped train Sheriffs around the state for supervision and transportation of involuntary psychiatric patients, as well as the vetting and training of QMHPs throughout the state. He is a member of the Team Two steering committee and was one of the original trainers and developers of the Team Two training model. Prior to working with DMH, Fox was the Director of Behavioral Health for Lamoille County Mental Health overseeing their adult mental health services. Fox has also been the director of several maximum security in-patient psychiatric units in the state of Massachusetts. He started his career at the Howard Center as a Crisis Clinician and later was the Assist Program Director. Fox also has trained with the FBI in Hostage Negotiating, has attended the police academy and has been a trainer for NAPPI, CPI and Mental Health First Aid. For stress reduction, Fox performs improvisational comedy with Vermont's longest running improv comedy troupe, Kamikaze Comedy.

**Heidi Guevin, Quality Improvement Consultant:** within the Jeffords Institute for Quality at the University of Vermont Medical Center. Inpatient Psychiatry Services is one of the many departments that Heidi supports. Heidi received her baccalaureate degree in nursing in 2002 from the University of Vermont. She has worked at the University of Vermont Medical Center since 1999 in many different capacities. In her spare time, Heidi enjoys spending time with her son and their two dogs.

**Robin P. Hall** currently works for the Washington County Mental Health Services Community Support Program as a Team Lead for the Maple House Temporary Crisis Bed.

**Julie Hammond, Vermont State Police:** Julie was hired by the Vermont State Police in July of 2003 and currently holds the rank of Sergeant is assigned to the Williston Barracks as a Patrol Commander.

**Courtenay M. Harding, PhD - Professor of Psychiatry and Rehabilitation**: international consultant on implementing recovery practices, program evaluations, public policy, and research. She is the recipient of over 46 awards and honors and has published extensively about schizophrenia, rehabilitation, and recovery.

Michael Hartman first came to work in the mental health field in as a part-time residential staff in a group living facility for patients returning to the community from VT State Hospital. He subsequently was part of supported employment services, emergency services, Intensive Family Based Services, and eventually became both an emergency and CRT director. He also was a co-founder and director of one of the first batterer intervention programs in Vermont, and was a consultant with the DOC for over 15 years. Michael left the community service arena and became the Commissioner of the DMH and then director of a health analytics provider. He returned to the community services sector in 2013 and serves as the director of behavioral health at LCMHS. He has a lovely family who has put up with him for over 30 years, and is currently working on his next career as a playwright.

Emily Hawes, LADC: Director of Care Management: After earning a Master's of Science degree in Rehabilitation Counseling from Emporia State University in Emporia Kansas, she worked within the community mental health system in Kansas with a primary focus on the CRT population. In 2006 Emily joined the Clara Martin Center and gained experience working in child and family services, crisis, substance abuse, criminal justice, and eventually held a leadership role with the agency as Director of Criminal Justice and Substance Abuse Programs. She came to the Department of Mental Health in January 2014 as a care manager focusing on supporting the reentry efforts for inmates who have been determined to be SFI (significant functional impairment). In December 2014, Emily became the Care Management Director at the Department of Mental Health overseeing the care management team which focuses on the movement of consumers throughout the decentralized system. She is a Kansas University Men's basketball fanatic and can be heard chanting "Rock Chalk Jayhawk" on many occasions, especially during March Madness.

**Beth Holden, Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor and a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor in the State of Vermont:** She holds a Master's of Science degree in community counseling from the University of Vermont. She has worked in the mental health and substance abuse fields for over 20 years and is currently employed with the Howard Center as an Associate Director overseeing 24/7 and community programs. Beth has vast experience and expertise with children, adolescents, adults and families. She has specialty training in emergency mental health services, co-occurring disorders, trauma informed practice, and supervision. Beth is a believer and supporter of community mental health services and provides leadership in her agency developing increased competencies for all staff providing integrated

services and trauma informed practice. She is level two trained in EMDR and has been a clinical supervisor for over 15 years. Beth is an experienced presenter and provides workshops on many topics related to co-occurring disorders, trauma-informed practice and professional development.

Breena Welch Holmes, MD is the Director of Maternal and Child Health for Vermont: After finishing her pediatric residency at Seattle Children's Hospital and a chief resident year at University of Massachusetts Medical School, she had a rural private practice in Middlebury, Vermont, focusing on adolescent health from 1997-2008. In 2008, Breena left her clinical practice to teach Health Literacy and Decision Making at Middlebury Union High School. In 2010, Breena became director of the Maternal and Child Health division which includes the statewide WIC program, School Health, Child Development Clinic, Children with Special Health Needs as well as Family Planning, Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention, Injury Prevention and early childhood systems work including federally funded Nurse Family Partnership for home visiting of first time pregnant moms, developmental screening and health/safety in early care and education programs through Race to the Top funding and LAUNCH grant. The Maternal and Child Health Division is part of Integrating Family Services as well as several other public health programs which affect children and families.

Dr. Holmes is the chair-elect of the Council on School Health for the American Academy of Pediatrics, on the pediatric faculty at University of Vermont College of Medicine and a school physician for several Middlebury area schools.

**Dr. John Hughes, University of Vermont- Professor of Psychiatry and Psychological Science at the University of Vermont:** conducts clinical studies on tobacco cessation. He has published over 400 articles on tobacco cessation, as well as alcohol and drug dependency and is ranked as one of the 10 most-cited tobacco researchers in the world.

Katie John MSN, FNP-BC is a Nurse Practitioner at Central Vermont Medical Center: She was working in Primary Care at Barre Internal Medicine from 2010 until June of 2015. She is now employed at Central Vermont Endocrinology. Her interests are general internal medicine, women's health and diabetes management. Ms. John graduated from Norwich University for her Bachelor's in Nursing and the University of Vermont for her Master's Degree.

**Nev Jones, MD:** Dr. Nev Jones is a community psychologist and mental health services researcher, currently working as a postdoctoral research fellow at Stanford University. Her research has spanned supported education, youth involvement, early intervention for psychosis, and the transformation of community mental health agencies and systems. Nev is an alumna of an early intervention for psychosis program based in Chicago and has been actively involved in the peer-recovery movement as an advocate, organizer and trainer.

Margaret Joyal, MA, Licensed Psychologist-Master, Director of Center for Counseling & Psychological Services: Margaret is the current Director for Washington County Mental Health Services Counseling and Psychological Services, and co-founder of the LINCS Adult Trauma Treatment Program. She is a member of the Vermont Association for Mental Health and Addiction Recovery, the National Association for Rural Mental Health and has held key positions

with the Vermont Psychological Associations, the North American Masters Psychologists, for which she served as President, and is the Chair of the Adult Outpatients Director's Group, a committee of the Council for Developmental and Mental Health Services. Ms. Joyal is a trainer and consultant on a developing trauma related services and presents on recent advances in trauma treatment, effects of psychological trauma, and treating survivors of childhood abuse. She is a current Consultant Trainer for the Center for Crime Victim Services and the Agency of Human Services. She services on the Child and Family Trauma Workgroup, focused on providing trauma informed services to children and families.

Asif Kalim MD,: Dr. Kalim has been with the Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCH) since its opening in July of 2014, as a mental health recovery specialist, where his primary role is leading therapeutic groups focusing on socialization, resilience, and individualized recovery modeling. Dr. Kalim brings his expertise and valuable experiences to VPCH including; his work with psychiatric patients in secure facilities at two Chicago based inner-city hospitals, management of patients in a recovery program for opioid addiction at The Chittenden Center in Burlington, VT, and clinical research looking at non-pharmaceutical interventions in the treatment of chronic pain at the University of Vermont Medical Center. Dr. Kalim earned his BS form University of Vermont, and MD from The American University of Integrative Sciences School of Medicine.

**Rachel Kling:** Rachel is a full time graduate student in Saint Michael's graduate program in clinical psychology, and hold an MFA in creative writing from Columbia University. I am a staff person in the START program (Stabilization Treatment and Recovery Team), a peer staffed crisis outreach program, and having been working there for approximately three years. I am currently an intern at Howard Center's adult outpatient program, Pine Street Counseling. I am also a black belt in Aikido which I have been studying for eighteen years.

**Gladys Mooney Konstantin** along with **Rene Rose** have been co-conspirators and colleagues representing the Northeast Kingdom Peer Team since 2012.

Jackie Leman lives in Burlington, VT. She is both a client of and a peer support worker for HowardCenter. She is a backup peer support worker at Westview House and also drives the Westview van and helps club members with transportation needs using her own vehicle. She was a patient at the Vermont State Hospital multiple times between the late 1980s up until 2002 and had about 25 different admissions during that time. Over the last 10 years, she has have been involved with the efforts to develop a new state hospital, both as a member of the original Futures Committee and as a public attendee at various state-level meetings. She is also a member of the HowardCenter Consumer Advocacy Network (CAN), which is the agency's standing committee, made up of clients, staff and family members. She is very passionate about using her experiences in the mental health system to help others personally and to help the Vermont mental health system to be the best that it can be.

**Abby Levinsohn:** is originally from New York and went to college at the University of Vermont. She graduated in spring 2011 and started working for the non-profit organization, Pathways Vermont. She became a founding member of The Wellness Co-op, a program of Pathways, which is a drop-in center based on community and peer support. Abby transitioned

into the role of Employment Specialist in fall 2012 and provides customized support based on Dartmouth's Individualized Placement and Support and Sherry Mead's Intentional Peer Support. Abby works with people on their interests, skills, and goals in finding great work that fits their interests. Abby also enjoys writing, playing soccer, and skiing in the winter.

**Sherry Marcelino**, CRT Community Support Manager at LCMHS. Has worked at LCMHS for 11 years and supervised peer services 5 years.

**Cameron Mack** works as Intake Coordinator and Community Bridger for the Soteria program at Pathways Vermont. Previously he has worked in other areas of Pathways Vermont such as The Wellness Co-op and the Vermont Support Line. Cameron is a native Vermonter and loves being in a state that is dedicated to providing Vermonters with many options for being connected to community.

**Victor A. Martini**, LCSW-R is director of Community Rehabilitation and Emergency Services for United Counseling Service in Bennington VT. Mr. Martini has over thirty years of experience working in the mental health field. He has worked in adolescent residential treatment, adult mental health treatment, and he has managed both hospital-based and community-based programs in both New York State and Vermont. He was the founder of the Consortium of Continuing Day Treatment Programs of N.Y., Inc., and served as their president for 10 years. Mr. Martini also teaches courses in Sociology at Schenectady County Community College.

Bill Marrapese, Clinical Nurse Educator at the Brattleboro Retreat: A graduate of the Walden University Graduate School of Nursing, he has made significant contributions to patient care, including leading a team of Early Responders to proactively engage patients prior to crisis, facilitating nursing skills education, and practicing as a charge nurse within the Adult Intensive Unit. Mr. Marrapese has presented poster presentations on the Practical Applications of Crisis Prevention to the New England Psychiatric Nurse Association, and is a certified CPI Instructor. Prior to this work with the Brattleboro Retreat, he completed training in forensic mental health services within the state of Massachusetts Department of Mental Health system. Bill is active in both the American Psychiatric Nurses Association and the American Nursing Professional Development Association.

Hilary Melton: Hilary has 20 plus years' experience managing non-profit programs including the first Housing First project founded by Dr. Sam Tsemberis in New York City in 1992. She has worked in shelters, street outreach, and administered supported housing programs in New York City and Vermont. Hilary is currently the Executive Director of Pathways Vermont which has been providing housing and support services in communities across the state of Vermont since 2009. Pathways Vermont was initially founded with a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to develop Housing First services in Vermont. Pathways Vermont, in addition to the Housing First project, also has several other projects: the Soteria Project, the Wellness Co-op (peer run community resource center), the Support Line (free, anonymous and non-judgmental phone support), and Supportive Services for Vermont Veterans (SSVF).

Katharine Monje, Manager of the Inpatient Psychiatry Department at the University of Vermont Medical Center in Burlington Vermont: She received her baccalaureate degree in nursing from the University of Vermont. Katharine has worked in the field of psychiatry and mental health since 2005. When she's not at work, Katharine enjoys spending time with her family, going to the theater and taking long walks.

Mary D. Moulton, MPA, Executive Director of Washington County Mental Health Services: a full spectrum designated agency serving people with mental health, substance use, and intellectual disabilities. From 2011-2013, she served as Deputy Commissioner and Interim Commissioner at the Department of Mental Health, working specifically with designated agencies on mental health system reform. Mary has worked for 25 years in the designated community mental health system, beginning her career in 1990 as a mental health crisis clinician on a mobile crisis team, and eventually becoming the Director of Intensive Care Services and then the Chief of Operations for WCMHS. She has also served as the state's Coordinator of Vermont's Behavioral Health Disaster Response Teams. Mary has developed and delivered numerous trainings for schools, police, and emergency responders on disaster response, sudden death notification, suicide prevention and awareness, and responding to mental health crisis. Her passion is in working with teams of dedicated individuals to develop programs and systems that are responsive to individual need. This involves traditional, as well as complementary, approaches to support and treatment.

**Nick Nichols** is the Policy Director at the Department of Mental Health. He has worked within Vermont's public mental health system for over 20 years in community, residential, inpatient and policy-level positions and is currently focused on expanding Vermont's network of peer support services both within traditional treatment settings and as an alternative to traditional services.

John O'Brien, Senior Mental Health Specialist: Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital John has worked as direct care staff for DMH since 1996. In the early 70s he worked at Danvers State Hospital as a Mental Health Attendant. Minimal training and extensive use of seclusion & restraint at that facility left a lifelong impression on him. Shortly after he began employment at Vermont State Hospital in 1996, John began training in the Vera Hanks courses for Psychiatric Technicians & became involved in initiatives to reduce seclusion & restraint. When VSH adopted the Pro-ACT (Professional Assault Crisis Training) program John trained as an instructor to assist in training coworkers. Throughout the transition from Waterbury to Morrisville to Berlin great strides were made in minimizing involuntary procedures & providing trauma informed care. John has continued to strongly support the implementation of the Six Core Strategies and has witnessed the significant culture change that continues for the inpatient care staff of the DMH. As a Lead Specialist John works directly with fellow Treatment Team members striving to provide the highest quality care to those most in need.

**Nick Parrish:** grew up in Shrewsbury, Vermont and has been based out of Burlington since 2001. Prior to his position as Project Director at The Wellness Co-op, he worked at Pathways Vermont with the Housing First and Department of Corrections teams in Chittenden, Washington and Franklin Counties. Nick has worked a number of other social service jobs at a variety of agencies in Vermont and has been a stone mason, landscaper, and bee

keeper, manager of a farmer's market and member of the board of a prominent worker's rights organization. In his off time, Nick enjoys meditation, urban homesteading, canoeing in the wilderness, fermenting food and talking to cats.

Gretchen Pembroke, Director of Adult and Primary Care Services - After receiving her BA degree in Psychology from St. Michael's College, Gretchen Pembroke joined the Clara Martin Center in 1999 as a Case Manager in the Community Support Program. She originally took on a leadership position at the agency when she was named the Community Support Program Team Leader in 2005, a position she held until 2012, when she was named the Director of Adult and Access Services. In 2007, Gretchen received her MA degree in Psychology from Vermont College, Union Institute and University and she has since attained her Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor (LCMHC) license. She remained the Director of Adult Services when the Access Program was merged with Acute Care Services in 2014, and at that time took on the additional leadership and oversight of Primary Care Services integration.

Nancy Lukas Perrault, RN Health and Wellness Program Coordinator: A Health and Wellness Nurse at the Clara Martin Center since 2011. Nancy obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing from the University of Connecticut, and a Master of Science degree in adult health nursing with a focus in education from the University of Vermont. She has been certified as an Advanced Practice Holistic Nurse since 2000. Nancy began her career in critical care where she worked as a staff nurse, manager, and educator. Nancy taught nursing at the University of Vermont and at Norwich University. Holistic nursing became the path that brought Nancy to pursue post-graduate studies in clinical psychology with a focus on somatic psychology at Santa Barbara Graduate Institute. She has worked in private practice as a holistic nurse and psychotherapist and also, as a diabetic educator for clients with mental illness. Nancy's professional focus over the last 15 years has centered on encouraging, respecting, and honoring the uniqueness of each person's journey.

Malaika Puffer is the manager of peer support services for Health Care and Rehabilitation Services of Southeastern Vermont (HCRS) and is involved with systems advocacy and development of alternatives on several levels within and outside of her work at HCRS. Currently she is helping build grassroots resources in the community as a part of The Hive Mutual Support Network in Brattleboro VT and writes for the website Mad In America. Malaika is a trainer of Intentional Peer Support as well as A Harm Reduction Approach to Psychiatric Drugs. Her credentials include 9 years of heavy doses of psychiatric drugs, many inpatient stays, and a dozen psychiatric labels—until she was exposed to the psychiatric

Frank Reed, Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health: overseeing the State of Vermont's publicly funded mental health system of care. Mr. Reed is an alumnus of the Adelphi University School of Social Work, holds a Vermont license as a Clinical Social Worker, and is a member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers. Mr. Reed's professional background includes both clinical and program administration experience in community and hospital-based mental health services, as well as progress management and executive level oversight responsibilities within the Department of Mental Health over the past 16 years. Mr. Reed's commitment to Vermont and mental health care services spans over 30 years. Mr. Reed is a past president of the Vermont Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers and a

retired behavioral health surveyor for the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, a national accrediting organization for mental health treatment services.

Alisson Richards, MD is the Assistant Medical Director at the Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital. She is a child and adolescent psychiatrist as well as adult psychiatrist and brings a family based approach to working with both individuals and families. She has been interested in collaborating with community providers to bring dialogical thinking to the hospital setting and working with and involving the community and families in this process.

**Rene Rose** along with **Gladys Mooney Konstantin** have been co-conspirators and colleagues representing the Northeast Kingdom Peer Team since 2012.

Jeff Rothenberg, Chief Executive Officer, Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital, Department of Mental Health has worked in Vermont's mental health care system for close to 25 years, the first 22 providing and overseeing services for designated agencies, including Emergency Services, CRT Services, AOP services and Children's services. In March 2012, as Act 79 was close to being implemented he joined DMH as the Principal Assistant to the Commissioner, and then became the interim CEO of Green Mountain Psychiatric Care Center an interim state run facility in Morrisville, He was appointed the permanent Director, in the fall of 2013, and oversaw the transition of GMPCC to VPCH and the opening of the new facility in Berlin. Jeff has his MS from Trinity College in Community Mental Health, and has been a licensed LCMHC since 1999. His passion is improving systems that influence how individuals are treated, so they are both more respectful of the person served and improve efficiencies in how those services are provided.

**Gregory Sheldon:** A Police officer for 15 years with the Rutland City Police Department. He is currently holding the positions of Staff Operations Sergeant, Crisis Negotiation Unit (formally Hostage Negotiation Unit) Supervisor, Team Two Instructor and Department Training Coordinator.

**Alexander "Sandy" Smith**, MA – is the Director of the Community Rehabilitation and Treatment (CRT) Program at the Counseling Service of Addison County (CSAC) where has worked for the past 27 years. In the early 1990's he participated in a series of trainings and meetings at CSAC regarding reflecting process with Tom Andersen, originator of the reflecting process which is now a key part of Open Dialogue. Over the past 2 1/2 years he has been involved in facilitating implementation of the Open Dialogue project at CSAC.

Sarah Squirrell, Executive Director of the Vermont Cooperative for Practice Improvement and Innovation (VCPI): Sarah earned a Master's Degree in Community Mental Health and Mental Health Counseling from Southern New Hampshire University. She has over 13 years of experience in community mental health. Her career accomplishments include developing a multi-county school-based mental health program in Vermont and working extensively in residential settings with adolescents. Sarah has a diverse background of experience as a mental health clinician with a background in business and in program and workforce development, as well as a strong commitment and dedication to recovery-oriented, person- and family-centered practice.

Ilisa Stalberg, Deputy Director for Maternal and Child Health at the Vermont Department of Health: As such, she is responsible for strategic planning and division-level programming, workforce development, performance improvement, and special projects. Ilisa has been at the Vermont Department of Health for five years, working in areas of reproductive health, domestic and sexual violence, and children with special health needs. Prior to this, she worked for many years in public health and Maternal and Child Health in Philadelphia. She holds her Masters in Social Service and Law and Social Policy from Bryn Mawr College.

**Sandra Steingard**, MD is Chief Medical Officer of Howard Center where she has worked for the past 20 years. She has studied Open Dialogue and related practices and has an interest in bringing these ideas to Vermont.

Leslee Tocci, MS, LCMHC has been the Community Support Program (CSP) Director at WCMHS since 1996. She started her career at WCMHS in 1988 and has worked in various capacities in CSP over this time. Prior to her work at WCMHS, she worked at McLean Hospital in Massachusetts. Leslee received her Master's Degree in Community Counseling from the University of Vermont in 1993, after receiving her Undergraduate Degree in Psychology with a Sociology Minor from Ithaca College. Leslee's professional interests include promotion of recovery & resiliency, wellness techniques and mental health awareness and education. Leslee enjoys outdoor activities, spending time with her family, and reading historical fiction.

**Gloria van den Berg,** founding director of Alyssum Inc., Vermont's peer run crisis respite which opened its doors to guests in November of 2011. She comes to the world of peer support with a history of building and running small businesses.

Jane Winterling is a Vermont Recovery Education Director. She works throughout the state supporting/mentoring WRAP Facilitators transitioning trainings into Vermont Blueprint Patent Centered Medical Home self-management education programing. She is responsible for the idea of WRAP and has worked closely with Mary Ellen Copeland on various projects. She is the author of Steps to Wellness – A Manual For Building Community Supports. Jane is the mother of three. She enjoys a variety of crafts, hiking and backpacking, yoga, and Native American spirituality.

Sandy Wood, Nurse Midwife in Women's Services at the University of Vermont Medical Center: She has been in practice there since 1994 providing well woman gynecology, prenatal and postnatal care, and catching babies. In 2007, seeing a need to address the mental health of our mothers, she obtained a Post Masters Certificate in Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing and now incorporates her role as a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner addressing the mental health needs of the prenatal and postnatal clients. This year she partnered with Maternal and Child Health at the Vermont Department of Health to share her expertise and provide a Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Consultation Service as a resource for information for Vermont community providers who care for women in the perinatal period.